THE PRINCIPAL

ACTS

OF THE

General Assembly

OF THE

CHURCH

OF

SCOTLAND,

CONVENED AT EDINBURGH, THE 19th DAY OF MAY 1791.

COLLECTED AND EXTRACTED FROM THE RECORDS BY THE CLERK THEREOF.

EDINBURGH:

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THE PRINCIPAL

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General Assembly

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CHURCH of SCOTLAND,

Begun at EDINBURGH, the 19th day of MAY 1791, and concluded the 30th Day of the ſaid Month and Year.

I.

The KING's Commiſſion to DAVID Earl of LEVEN produced, and ordered to be recorded.

Edinburgh, May 19. 1791.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY of this NATIONAL CHURCH being convened and conſtituted, there was produced to them, by the Right Honourable DAVID Earl of LEVEN, the KING's Commiſſion, ſealed with the ſeal appointed by the Treaty of Union to be kept and uſed in *Scotland*, in place of the Great Seal of *Scotland*, making and conſtituting him his Majeſty's High Commiſſioner and

and Repreſentative in this Aſſembly; which Commiſſion was publicly read with all due honour and reſpect, and ordered to be recorded in the Books of Aſſembly;— the tenor whereof follows:

GEORGIUS, *Dei gratia, Magnæ Britanniæ, Franciæ et Hiberniæ Rex, Fidei Defenſor: Omnibus probis hominibus, ad quos præſentes literæ noſtræ pervenerint, ſalutem. Quandoquidem Nos conſiderantes, quod generalis eccleſiæ Scotiæ conventus in decimum nonum diem Maii proximi convenire ordinatus fuit; Noſque abundè cupidi, et neceſſarium eſſe judicantes in commodum dictæ eccleſiæ, ut idem eccleſiæ generalis conventus die ſtatuto debitè obſervetur, atque rebus magni momenti nos aliò vocantibus, dicto conventui perſonaliter intereſſe nequimus; Noſque abundè ſatisfacti de ſufficientiâ et fidelitate fideliſſimi et prædilectiſſimi noſtri conſanguinei* Davidis Comitis de Leven, *quod ad ſummum munus noſtri ſupremi Commiſſionarii ad dictum generalem conventum ritè exercendum et obeundum uſquequaque ſit inſtructus: Noveritis igitur, Nos nominaſſe, conſtituiſſe, et ordinaſſe, tenoreque præſentium, nominare, conſtituere, et ordinare, memoratum, fideliſſimum et prædilectiſſimum noſtrum conſanguineum* Davidem Comitem de Leven, *ſupremum noſtrum Comiſſionarium dicto generali eccleſiæ Scotiæ conventui, dando et concedendo illi plenam poteſtatem, commiſſionem, et warrantum ſacram noſtram perſonam et auctoritatem regalem repræſentandi, nec non præſentiam noſtram ſupplendi, et locum noſtrum in dicto ſubſequenti generali conventu, tanquam Commiſſionario noſtro ad hunc effectum ſpecialiter conſtituto, tenendi, omniaque alia ad imperium et munus Commiſſionarii pro generali eccleſiæ conventu peragendi, tam plenè adeoque liberè in quovis reſpectu, quam quilibet alius in eodem ſummo munere fecerat, ſeu quovis tempore præterito facere potuerat, vel ac ſi nos ipſi perſonaliter præſentes facere potuerimus. Quæque omnia et ſingula quæ dictus* David Comes de Leven, *in hac noſtra commiſſione proſequenda legitimè fecerit, ſeu fieri ordinaverit, nos firmiter approbamus, et ratificamus. Inſuper omnibus et ſingulis dicti conventûs et eccleſiæ paſtoribus et preſbyteris cæteriſque quibuſcunque, intra illam partem Magnæ Britanniæ* Scotiam *vocatam, ſubditis noſtris, cujuſcunque gradûs ſeu qualitatis, ut dictum* Davidem Comitem de Leven, *tanquam ſupremum noſtrum Commiſſionarium, quoad effectum et modum ſupra mentionatum, revereantur, agnoſcant et audiant, ſtrictè mandamus et præcipimus: Atque hanc noſtram Commiſſionem à dicto decimo nono die Maii, proximi incipere, et deinceps durante ſubſequente ſeſſione dicti generalis conventûs in vigore continuare, declaramus, vel uſque dum a nobis revocabitur, et exonerabitur.*

In

In cujus rei teſtimonium, præſentibus ſigillum noſtrum per Unionis tractatum cuſtodiend. et in Scotiâ vice et loco Magni Sigilli ejuſdem utend. ordinat. appendi mandavimus. Apud aulam noſtram apud St James's, vigeſimo-octavo die Aprilis, anno Domini milleſimo ſeptingenteſimo nonageſimo-primo, Regnique noſtri anno trigeſimo-primo.

Per ſignaturam manu S. D. N. Regis ſupraſcriptam.

II.

The KING's moſt gracious Letter to the General Aſſembly, preſented to them by his Majeſty's Commiſſioner.

GEORGE R.

RIGHT REVEREND and Well-beloved, We greet you well.—When We reflect upon the conſtant and laudable zeal which you have ſhewn for the promotion of ſound Learning and true Religion, and upon the ſteady Loyalty and Attachment which you have manifeſted towards Our Perſon and Government, We have the greateſt ſatisfaction in continuing to you Our Royal Countenance and Protection; and We feel anxious to repeat to you thoſe aſſurances of Our Paternal Regard and Good Will, and of Our reſolution to maintain inviolate the Rights and Privileges of the Church of Scotland, which We have expreſſed to you on ſo many former occaſions.

We truſt that your proceedings will be directed to the ſame laudable purpoſes as heretofore; and that you will continue your attention to ſuch meaſures as are calculated for diffuſing the principles of genuine Chriſtianity, for inſtilling into all ranks of men an attention to Moral Duties, and an obedience to the Laws, and for promoting the general Peace and Happineſs of Society; and that you will endeavour to avoid all unneceſſary diſputes and ſuperfluous diſcuſſions, which may in any way tend to interrupt that harmony which We have with pleaſure obſerved to be ſo long prevalent amongſt you.

We have again thought fit to conſtitute and appoint Our Right Truſty and Right Well-beloved Couſin, DAVID Earl of LEVEN, to be Our Commiſſioner, to repreſent Our Perſon and Royal Authority in the preſent Aſſembly, being aſſured that he muſt continue to be acceptable to you, as well from his eminent virtues and merits, as from that experience and knowledge which he has acquired in your concerns, having ſo frequently adminiſtered the duties of this high and important Office.

It remains for Us only to expreſs Our anxiety, that your proceedings may continue to be conducted with moderation and diſcretion, and that charity, unanimity, and brotherly love may prevail amongſt you. And ſo, with Our earneſt wiſhes for your proſperity and welfare, We bid you heartily farewell.—Given at Our Court at St James's, the 9th day of May 1791, in the 31ſt year of Our Reign.

By his Majeſty's Command,

GRENVILLE.

Addreſſed thus:—*To the Right Reverend and Well-beloved the Moderator, Miniſters and Elders of the General Aſſembly of the Church of Scotland.*

III.

The General Aſſembly's Anſwer to the KING's moſt gracious Letter.

May it pleaſe Your Majeſty,

WE have received, with the utmoſt reſpect and gratitude, the gracious letter with which Your Majeſty has been pleaſed to honour this General Aſſembly of the Church of Scotland.

The diſtinguiſhed marks of approbation with which Your Majeſty has formerly vouchſafed to give us, and condeſcended ſo graciouſly at this time to repeat, afford us the higheſt ſatisfaction, and are to us moſt animating motives

motives to perſevere in our zeal for promoting ſound Learning and true Religion.

As we gladly embrace every opportunity of expreſſing our duty and affection to Your Majeſty's Perſon, and of our firm attachment to Your mild and auſpicious Government, Your gracious acceptance of thoſe humble expreſſions of our loyalty and zeal, and Your aſſurances that we ſhall always meet with Your Royal Protection, and that it is Your Majeſty's determination to maintain and ſupport the Church of Scotland, as eſtabliſhed by law, in the full and free enjoyment of all Her juſt Rights and Privileges, at once fill us with the moſt lively gratitude, and encourage us to repoſe the greateſt confidence in Your Majeſty's Goodneſs.

We beg leave to aſſure Your Majeſty, that it ſhall be our ſtudy to direct our proceedings in future, to the ſame laudable purpoſes as heretofore, and to continue our attention to ſuch meaſures as are beſt calculated for diffuſing the principles of genuine Chriſtianity, and for inſtilling into the minds of all ranks of men committed to our care, a conſcientious regard to Moral Duties, and a ſtrict obedience to the Laws, and for promoting the general peace and happineſs of Society: And to give dignity and authority to our proceedings, we ſhall be careful to avoid all unneceſſary diſputes and ſuperfluous diſcuſſions, and to maintain that harmony which hitherto has obtained Your Majeſty's gracious approbation.

We conſider Your Majeſty's appointment of DAVID Earl of LEVEN, again to repreſent Your Royal Perſon in this Aſſembly, as a freſh mark of Your gracious condeſcenſion and goodneſs to us. His known loyalty to Your Majeſty, his attachment, like that of his anceſtors, to the Church of Scotland, his tender regard to the intereſts of Religion and Virtue, and the fidelity with which he has ſo frequently diſcharged the duties of the high and important Office which he now fills, render him moſt acceptable to us.

We accept of Your Majeſty's Donation of one thouſand pounds for the propagation of the Proteſtant Religion in the Highlands and Iſlands of Scotland, as a freſh mark of Your Majeſty's paternal care of all Your ſubjects. As we feel ourſelves highly honoured in being made the inſtruments of Your Majeſty's pious intentions, it ſhall be our ſtudy to fulfil them, by the moſt prudent and effectual application of the ſum that is entruſted to us.

We

We truſt that all our proceedings ſhall be conducted with that charity, unanimity and brotherly love, and with that moderation which Your Majeſty's paternal care leads You ſo anxiouſly to deſire; and we accept of Your earneſt wiſhes for our proſperity and welfare, as a moſt endearing proof of Your Majeſty's favour and affection.

That the God and Father of our Lord and Saviour Jeſus Chriſt may direct Your Majeſty's Councils to the public good; That he may bleſs you with every domeſtic comfort; That he may bleſs the QUEEN, the PRINCE OF WALES, and all the Royal Family; That, after preſerving Your Majeſty long to be the Guardian of our free Conſtitution, and of the rights of Your people, he may call You, full of years and of glory, to the poſſeſſion of an Heavenly Crown; and that he may grant to Your Royal Race, through future generations, to fill with dignity the Britiſh Throne, and to promote the intereſt of his Kingdom on earth, are the fervent prayers of,

May it pleaſe Your Majeſty,

Your Majeſty's moſt faithful,

Moſt obedient, and moſt loyal ſubjects,

The Miniſters and Elders met in this National Aſſembly of the Church of Scotland.

Signed in our name,

In our preſence,

And at our appointment, by

Edinburgh, May 21. 1791. } ROBERT SMALL, *Mod.*

IV.

IV.

COMMISSION of the GENERAL ASSEMBLY to certain Miniſters and Ruling Elders, for diſcuſſing Affairs referred to them.

Edinburgh, May 28. 1791. *Seſſ.* 9.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY did, and hereby do nominate, commiſſion and appoint the Reverend Dr ROBERT SMALL, one of the Miniſters of Dundee, their Moderator: And,—From the *Preſbytery* of *Kirkcudbright*, Mr Robert Muter at Kirkcudbright, Mr John Johnſton at Croſsmichael, Mr Hugh Gordon at Anwoth, *Miniſters;* John Gordon, Eſq; of Carleton, *Ruling Elder:*—From the *Burgh* of *Kirkcudbright*, Horatius Cannan, Eſq; of Barley:—From the *Burgh* of *New Galloway*, Ephraim Lockhart, Eſq:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Wigton*, Dr William Boyd at Penningham, Mr Andrew Donnan at Wigton, *Miniſters;* Dr Adam Ferguſon, Profeſſor of Mathematics, Edinburgh, *Ruling Elder:*—From the *Burgh* of *Wigton*, George Cranſton, Eſq; of Dewar:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Stranraer*, Mr John Coulter at Stranraer, Mr Peter Ferguſon at Inch, *Miniſters;* Thomas Adair, Eſq; of Genoch, *Ruling Elder:*—From the *Burgh* of *Stranraer*, Mr Thomas Smith, writer in Edinburgh:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Ayr*, Mr William MacQuhae at St Quivox, Mr John Shepherd at Muirkirk, Mr William Peebles at Newton upon Ayr, Mr George Gordon at Sorn, Mr William Crawford at Straton, *Miniſters;* John Hamilton, Eſq; of Bargeny, Thomas Kennedy, Eſq; of Dunure, *Ruling Elders:*—From the *Burgh* of *Ayr*, George Ferguſſon, Eſq; advocate:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Irvine*, Mr Thomas Maxwell at Stewartoun, Dr George Laurie at Loudon, Mr John Robertſon at Kilmarnock, *Miniſters;* the Hon. Mr Patrick Boyle of Shewalton, *Ruling Elder:*—From the *Preſbytery* of *Paiſley*, Dr John Snodgraſs at Paiſley, Mr John Monteith *junior*, at Neilſton, Mr George MacClatchie at Mearns, Mr William Hardie at Inchinnan, *Miniſters;* Mr William Carlyle, merchant in Paiſley, Mr Robert Barclay, merchant there, *Ruling Elders:*—From the *Preſbytery* of *Hamilton*, Mr Michael MacCulloch at Bothwell, Mr Archibald

Bruce at Shotts, Mr Hugh Mitchell at Glasford, *Miniſters;* Henry Stewart, Eſq; of Allanton, *Ruling Elder:* —From the *Preſbytery* of *Lanark*, Mr James MacConochie at Crawford, Mr Joſeph Crichton at Carſtairs, *Miniſters*; Profeſſor Archibald Arthur, Glaſgow, *Ruling Elder:*—From the *Burgh* of *Lanark*, John Bannatyne, Eſq; of Caſtlebank:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Glaſgow*, Dr William Porteous, Mr William Lockhart, Mr William Taylor, Glaſgow, Mr James Furlong at Rutherglen, *Miniſters;* John Chriſtie, Eſq; of Glenduffhill, Mr Robert Cowan, merchant in Glaſgow, *Ruling Elders:*—From the *Preſbytery* of *Dumbarton*, Mr James Graham at Killern, Mr John Stewart at Luſs, Mr John Gilleſpie at Arrochar, *Miniſters;* the Right Hon. the Lord Preſident, *Ruling Elder:*—From the *Preſbytery* of *Dunoon*, Mr Archibald MacLea at Rothſay, Mr Alexander MacFarlane at Kilfinan, *Miniſters;* John Lamont of Lamont, Eſq; *Ruling Elder:*—From the *Preſbytery* of *Kintyre*, Mr Gerſham Stuart at Kilbride in Arran, Mr Alexander Stuart at Jura and Colonſay, Mr Archibald Robertſon at Kildalton in Ilay, *Miniſters;* Archibald MacDonald of Sanda, Eſq; *Ruling Elder:*—From the *Burgh* of *Campbelton*, William Campbell of Fairfield, Eſq;:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Mull*, Mr Archibald MacColl at Tyrie, Mr Alexander Campbell at Ardnamurchan, *Miniſters;* Allan MacDougall of Hayfield, Eſq; *Ruling Elder:*—From the *Preſbytery* of *Dunkeld*, Mr Robert Williamſon at Lethendy, Mr James-Patrick Bannerman at Cargill, Mr George Baird at Dunkeld, Mr Allan Stewart at Kirkmichael, *Miniſters;* Thomas Elder, Eſq; of Forneth, David Steuart, Eſq; banker in Edinburgh, *Ruling Elders:*—From the *Preſbytery* of *Perth*, Mr Harry Inglis at Forteviot, Mr John Inglis at Tippermuir, Mr George Chapman at Kinfauns, Mr Lewis Dunbar at Kinnoull, *Miniſters*; John Caw, Eſq; late Provoſt of Perth, Dr Hugh MacLeod, Profeſſor of Church Hiſtory in Glaſgow, *Ruling Elders:*—From the *Preſbytery* of *Stirling*, Mr John Duncan at Alva, Mr David Dickſon at Bothkennar, *Miniſters;* William Morehead of Herbertſhire, Eſq; *Ruling Elder:*—From the *Burgh* of *Stirling*, Baillie William Anderſon, Stirling:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Auchterarder*, Mr John Scott at Muthill, Mr Colin Baxter at Monivaird, Mr Andrew Gibſon at Muckart, *Miniſters;* The Honourable Henry Erſkine, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Dunblane*, Mr Patrick Graham at Aberfoil, Mr David Simpſon at Tulliallan, *Miniſters;* William MacLauchlan, Eſq;

Eſq; of Auchentroig, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Dunfermline*, Mr James Reid at Beath, Mr David Balfour at Torryburn, Mr Peter Primroſe at Dalgety, *Miniſters*; John Adam, Eſq; of Maryburgh, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Kirkcaldy*, Mr David Swan at Scoonie, Mr John Thomſon at Markinch, Mr George Gib at Wemyſs, *Miniſters*; James Townſend Oſwald of Dunikeir, Eſq; *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Burgh* of *Kirkcaldy*, Mr Andrew Inglis *junior*, merchant in Kirkcaldy:—From the *Burgh* of *Burntiſland*, Mr James Reid, ſchoolmaſter in Burntiſland:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Cupar*, Mr Robert Bogie at Logie, Mr Robert MacCulloch at Dairſie, Mr Andrew Ireland at Moonzie, Mr Thomas Stewart at Newburgh, *Miniſters*; Mr Thomas Campbell, Mr David Simpſon at Dunboig, *Ruling Elders*:—From the *Burgh* of *Cupar*, Major John Melvill of Cairnie:—From the *Preſbytery* of *St Andrew's*, Mr John Mair at Cameron, Mr Thomas Kettle at Leuchars, Mr James Nairne at Pittenweem, Mr Andrew Bell, at Craill, *Miniſters*; Lieut. Col. Alexander Monypenny of Pitmilly, Profeſſor John Cook, St Andrew's, *Ruling Elders*:—From the *Burgh* of *St Andrew's*, Dr Andrew Duncan, phyſician in Edinburgh:—From the *Univerſity* of *St Andrew's*, Dr George Hill, Profeſſor of Divinity in the New College, St Andrew's:—From the *Burgh* of *Craill*, Mr Thomas Weir, writer in Edinburgh:—From the *Burgh* of *Anſtruther-Eaſter*, Mr Laurence Adamſon, preacher of the goſpel at Kilconquhar:—From the *Burgh* of *Anſtruther-Weſter*, Mr William MacCormick, late merchant in North Carolina, now reſiding in Edinburgh:—From the *Burgh* of *Kilrenny*, Mr Henry-David Hill, Profeſſor of Greek in the Univerſity of St Andrew's:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Meigle*, Mr James Ogilvy at Eaſſy, Mr Alexander Small at Newtyle, Dr James Playfair at Meigle, *Miniſters*; Sir William Ramſay of Banff, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Forfar*, Mr David Fernie at Kinnettles, Mr John Webſter at Inverarity, *Miniſters*; Alexander Watſon, Eſq; younger of Turin, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Burgh* of *Forfar*, Robert Graham of Fintry, Eſq;:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Dundee*, Mr Andrew Hally at Lundie and Foulis, Mr David Spence at Kinnaird, *Miniſters*; Mr Patrick Smith, merchant in Dundee, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Aberbrothock*, Mr William Milligan at Kirkden, Mr David Sim at Barry, *Miniſters*; Mr Thomas Milne, merchant in Canongate, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Burgh* of *Aberbrothock*, Mr Thomas Duncan, writer

writer in Edinburgh:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Brechin*, Mr Alexander Peter at Logie-Pert, Mr John Gillanders at Fern, Mr Andrew Hutton at Edzell, *Miniſters*; James Wauchope of Edmonſton, Eſq; advocate, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Burgh* of *Montroſe*, Adam Gillies, Eſq; advocate:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Fordoun*, Mr William Walker at St Cyrus, Mr David Forbes at Laurencekirk, Mr James Leſlie at Fordoun, *Miniſters*; Mr John Burnet, advocate, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Aberdeen*, Dr John Brown at Newhills, Dr Alexander Gerard, Profeſſor of Divinity King's College, Aberdeen, Mr William Stronach at Newmachar, Mr George Moriſon at Banchory Devonick, *Miniſters*; William Robertſon, Eſq; advocate, Procurator for the Church, John Gordon, Eſq; of Craig, *Ruling Elders*:—From *King's College, Aberdeen*, Mr Roderick MacLeod, Sub-principal:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Kincardine o'Neil*, Mr Robert Michie at Cluny, Mr William Maitland at Tarland, Mr Thomas Gordon at Aboyne, *Miniſters*; William MacDonald of Rineaton, Eſq; *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Alford*, Mr Robert Lumſden at Kildrummy, Mr George Donaldſon at Kinethmont, Mr James Reid at Auchendoir, *Miniſters*; James Gordon Eſq; younger of Craig, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Preſbytery* of Ellon, Mr William Duff at Foveran, Mr William Paterſon at Logie, *Miniſters*; Profeſſor Thomas Gordon, Aberdeen, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Garioch*, Mr Thomas Shepherd at Bourty, Mr John Shand at Chapel of Garioch, Mr Robert Shepherd at Daviot, *Miniſters*; Mr William Gordon, younger of Rothney, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Deer*, Mr John Craigie at St Fergus, Mr Hugh Taylor, Aſſiſtant Miniſter at New Deer, Mr William Anderſon at Strichen, *Miniſters*; Mr John Taylor, clerk to the Signet, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Turriff*, Mr Robert Duff at King Edward, Mr George Sangſter at Alvah, *Miniſters*; Mr James Moriſon, *junior*, merchant in Leith, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Fordyce*, Mr Robert Grant at Cullen, Mr Robert Ogilvie at Orduquhill, *Miniſters*; Mr George Andrew, writer in Edinburgh, *Ruling Elder*;—From the *Burgh* of *Cullen*, Mr John Gordon, *junior* of Cairnfield, advocate:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Strathbogie*, Mr John Cooper at Glaſs, Mr Alexander Angus at Botriphnie, *Miniſters*; the Hon. Mr Baron Gordon, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Aberlour*, Mr James Grant at Inveraven, Mr Francis Leſlie at Boharm, *Miniſters*; Iſaac Grant, Eſq;

of

of Hilton, writer to the Signet, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Abernethy*, Mr Lewis Grant at Cromdale, Mr John Grant at Kirkmichael, *Miniſters*; Dr Gregory Grant, phyſician in Edinburgh, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Elgin*, Mr William Gordon at Urquhart, Mr James Gillan at Speymouth, *Miniſters*; Mr Thomas Gordon, writer to the Signet, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Burgh* of *Elgin*, William Scott, Eſq; banker in Edinburgh:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Forres*, Mr John Hoyes at Kinloſs, Mr John MacDonald at Edinkelly, *Miniſters*; Robert Urquhart of Birds Yards, Eſq; *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Nairn*, Mr Hugh Calder at Croy, Mr John Moriſon at Nairn, *Miniſters*; Alexander Grant, Eſq; writer to the Signet, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Preſbytery* of Inverneſs, Mr Robert Roſe at Inverneſs, Mr John Mackelican at Durris, *Miniſters*; Robert Mackintoſh, Eſq; advocate, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Chanonry*, Mr Alexander Wood at Roſemarkie, Mr Robert Smith at Cromarty, *Miniſters*; Convener John Lindſay, Edinburgh, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Tain*, Mr John Mathiſon at Kilmuir Eaſter, Mr Alexander Munro at Edderton, *Miniſters*; Charles Roſs, Eſq; advocate, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Burgh* of *Tain*, Robert Colt, Eſq; of Auldhame:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Dingwall*, Mr John Downie at Urray, Mr Daniel Roſe at Dingwall, *Miniſters*; Mr Kenneth Mackenzie, writer to the Signet, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Abertarph*, Mr James Grant at Laggan, Mr Thomas Roſs at Kilmanivaig, *Miniſters*; Coll MacDonald, Eſq; writer to the Signet, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Uiſt*, Mr George Munro at South Uiſt, Mr Edmund Macqueen at Barra, *Miniſters*; William Macleod-Bannatyne, Eſq; of Kames, advocate, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Preſbytery* of Lochcarron, Mr Alexander Stronach at Lochbroom, Mr Lauchlan MacKenzie at Lochcarron, *Miniſters*; Baillie Daniel Miller, merchant in Canongate, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Dornoch*, Mr George Rainnie at Creich, Mr John Bethune at Dornoch, *Miniſters*; Robert Bruce Æneas MacLeod, Eſq; of Cadboll, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Tong*, Mr Alexander Falconer at Edrachilles, Mr John Thomſon at Durneſs, *Miniſters*; Mr William MacLean, merchant in Edinburgh, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Caithneſs*, Mr Robert Gun at Latheron, Mr George MacKenzie at Olrick, *Miniſters*; Sir John Sinclair of Ulbſter, Bart. *Ruling Elder*:—From

the *Burgh* of *Wick*, James Horne, Eſq; writer to the Signet:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Kirkwall*, Mr James Watſon at South Ronaldſay, Mr Robert Yule at Kirkwall, *Miniſters;* Mr Alexander Youngſon, writer in Edinburgh, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Burgh* of *Kirkwall*, Malcolm Laing, Eſq; advocate:—From the *Preſbytery of Cairſtone*, Mr James Bremner at Walls and Flotta, Mr John Falconer at Stromneſs and Sandwick, *Miniſters*; James Cunninghame of Hyndhope, Eſq; *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Preſbytery of North Iſles*, Mr John Anderſon at Stronſay and Eday, Mr James Izat at Weſtray and Papa Weſtray, *Miniſters;* John Grieve, Eſq; Commiſſioner of his Majeſty's Board of Exciſe, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Zetland*, Mr William Mitchell at Tingwall, Mr John Inches at Neſting, *Miniſters;* Profeſſor Dalzel, Edinburgh, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Edinburgh*, Mr James Craig at Currie, Dr William Gloag, Edinburgh, Dr John Walker at Collington, Mr Thomas Randall, and Mr William Moodie, Edinburgh, Mr Robert Dickſon at South Leith, *Miniſters;* Lord Henderland, William Ramſay, Eſq; of Barnton, Donald Smith, Eſq; Dean of Guild of the City, *Ruling Elders*:—From the *City of Edinburgh*, the Right Hon. James Stirling, Lord Provoſt of the City of Edinburgh, Mr Alexander Reid, preſent Deacon Convener of the Trades there:—From the *Univerſity of Edinburgh*, Mr James Finlayſon, Profeſſor of Logic in the Univerſity of Edinburgh:—From the *Church* of *Campvere*, Mr James Likly at Campvere, Bailie George Leſlie, merchant in Edinburgh:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Linlithgow*, Mr Robert Wiſhart at Livingſton, Mr James Lindſay at Kirkliſton, Mr William Gibb at Uphall, Mr James Rhind at Whitburn, *Miniſters;* Provoſt Robert Clerk, Linlithgow, Charles Hope, Eſq; advocate, *Ruling Elders*:—From the *Burgh* of *Linlithgow*, Robert Blair, Eſq; advocate, his Majeſty's Solicitor-General for Scotland:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Biggar*, Mr John Gordon at Dolphington, Mr William Porteous at Kilbucho, Mr William Strachan at Culter, *Miniſters;* John Brown of Cultermains, Eſq; *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Peebles*, Mr Charles Findlater at Newlands, Mr John Walker at Traquair, *Miniſters;* James Montgomery, Eſq; advocate, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Burgh* of *Peebles*, Andrew Hamilton of Spittlehaugh, Eſq; writer to the Signet:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Dalkeith*, Dr Alexander Carlyle at Inver-

eſk,

eſk, Mr William Scott at Dalkeith, Mr James Goldie at Temple, *Miniſters;* Robert Dundas, Eſq; of Arniſton, his Majeſty's Advocate for Scotland, *Ruling Elder:*—From the *Preſbytery* of *Haddington*, Mr George Goldie at Athelſtaneford, Mr Hugh Cunninghame at Tranent, Mr George Hamilton at Gladſmuir, *Miniſters;* John Hamilton of Pencaitland, Eſq; *Ruling Elder:*—From the *Burgh* of *Haddington*, Mr Richard Somner, ſurgeon in Haddington:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Dunbar*, Mr Daniel MacQueen, at Preſtonkirk, Mr James Williamſon at Whitekirk, *Miniſters;* John Anderſon of Windygoul, Eſq; *Ruling Elder:*—From the *Preſbytery* of *Dunſe*, Mr Selby Ord at Longformacus, Mr George Drummond at Cranſhaws, *Miniſters;* Matthew Sandilands, Eſq; of Couſton, *Ruling Elder:*—From the *Preſbytery* of *Churnſide*, Mr George Tod at Eymouth, Mr David Young at Foulden, *Miniſters;* Sir John Stewart of Allanbank, Bart. *Ruling Elder:*—From the *Preſbytery* of *Kelſo*, Mr James Richardſon at Morbattle, Mr Andrew Scott at Stitchell, *Miniſters;* the Right Hon. Henry Dundas, Treaſurer of the Navy, *Ruling Elder:*—From the *Preſbytery* of *Jedburgh*, Mr James Rutherford at Hounam, Mr Benjamin Dickſon at Kirktoun, Mr David Brown at Crailing, *Miniſters;* John MacFarlane, Eſq; advocate, *Ruling Elder:*—From the *Preſbytery* of *Lauder*, Mr William Gullan at Legerwood, Mr James Duncan at Mertoun, *Miniſters;* Capt. John Pringle of Georgefield, *Ruling Elder:*—From the *Burgh* of *Lauder*, the Earl of Lauderdale:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Selkirk*, Mr Thomas Robertſon at Selkirk, Mr William Campbell at Lilliesleaf, *Miniſters;* William Elliot, younger of Borthwickbrae, Eſq; advocate, *Ruling Elder:*—From the *Burgh* of *Selkirk*, Mr James Rochead, late merchant in Edinburgh:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Annan*, Mr William Hardie Moncrieff at Annan, Mr John Morgan at Graitney, *Miniſters;* Sir William Maxwell of Springkell, Bart. *Ruling Elder:*—From the *Preſbytery* of *Langholm*, Mr John Lowrie, at Eſkdalemuir, Mr John Ruſſell at Cannonby, *Miniſters;* Mr James Saunders, writer to the Signet, *Ruling Elder:*—From the *Preſbytery* of *Lochmaben*, Dr Patrick Niſbet at Hutton, Mr David Donaldſon at Wamphray, Mr David Dickſon at Saint Mungo, *Miniſters;* Mr John Jaffray, writer in Edinburgh, *Ruling Elder:*—From the *Burgh* of *Lochmaben*, Mr Archibald Douglas, writer in Edinburgh:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Penpont*, Mr William Keyden at Penpont, Mr William Ranken at Sanquhar, *Miniſters;*

Mr

Mr Robert Crinzean in Penpont, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Burgh* of *Sanquhar*, Mr John Peat, writer in Edinburgh:—From the *Preſbytery* of *Dumfries*, Dr David Lamont at Kirkpatrick Durham, Mr James Heron at Kirkguneon, Mr William Macmorin at Carlaverick, *Miniſters*; Robert Riddell of Glenriddell, Eſq; *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Burgh* of *Dumfries*, Alexander Ferguſon, of Craigdarroch, Eſq;—And the General Aſſembly added thereto, Dr Thomas Hardy, one of the miniſters of the City, and Profeſſor of Church Hiſtory in the Univerſity of Edinburgh, in place of the Moderator; together with all thoſe whoſe commiſſions were rejected on account of informality, *viz.* For the *City* of *Glaſgow*, Archibald Campbell, Eſq; advocate:—For the *Preſbytery* of *Inverary*, Mr Archibald Campbell at North Knapdale, Mr Lauchlan MacLauchlan at Craigniſh, *Miniſters*; David Campbell, Eſq; of Combie, *Ruling Elder*:—And for the *Preſbytery* of *Lorn*, Mr William Campbell at Kilchrenan, Mr Ludovick Grant at Ardchatton, *Miniſters*; John Campbell, Eſq; of Lochend, *Ruling Elder*: To BE COMMISSIONERS of this General Aſſembly, to the effect after mentioned; with power to the ſaid Commiſſioners, or their quorum, which is hereby declared to be any thirty-one of the ſaid Commiſſioners, whereof twenty-one are always to be miniſters, to meet and convene within the Aſſembly-houſe at Edinburgh, the firſt day after the diſſolution of this Aſſembly, at ten of the clock in the forenoon; and thereafter, the ſecond Wedneſday of Auguſt, third Wedneſday of November, and the firſt Wedneſday of March next to come, and oftener, when and where they ſhall think fit and convenient, with power to the ſaid Commiſſioners to chuſe their own Moderator: And likewiſe, the General Aſſembly fully empowers their ſaid Commiſſioners, or their quorum above mentioned, to cognoſce and finally determine, as they ſhall ſee cauſe, in every matter referred, or that ſhall be referred to them, by an act or order of this Aſſembly; and to do every thing contained in, and conform to the inſtructions given, or to be given by this Aſſembly; and to advert to the intereſt of the Church on every occaſion, that the Church, and preſent eſtabliſhment thereof, do not ſuffer or ſuſtain any prejudice which they can prevent, as they will be anſwerable: Provided always, that this general clauſe be not extended to particular affairs or proceſſes before Synods or Preſbyteries, that are not of univerſal concern to, or influence upon the

the whole Church. And it is hereby appointed, that no private proceſſes be determined, except at the four ſtated diets; and what ſhall be determined at one diet of the Commiſſion, with relation to private cauſes, ſhall be unalterable by any other diet thereof, and ſhall ſtand and continue in force till diſapproved of by the General Aſſembly. And the Aſſembly renews the inſtructions given by the General Aſſembly in the year one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventeen to their Commiſſion, and appoints the ſame to ſtand in full force as inſtructions to the Commiſſioners before named, and to be obſerved by them in all points, as if the ſame were ſpecially here inſerted; and that they enquire into the publiſhing and ſpreading of books and pamphlets, tending towards the promoting of opinions of whatever kind, inconſiſtent with our *Confeſſion of Faith*; and that the recommenders of ſuch books or pamphlets, or the errors therein contained, whether by word, writ, or print, be called before the ſaid Commiſſion, to anſwer for the ſame. And further, the ſaid Commiſſion is hereby empowered to receive any references and appeals that ſhall be made to them from Synods, in matters of doctrine, and ripen ſuch affairs for the next General Aſſembly; and to contribute what they can to the ſuppreſſing of vice and immorality, and give all needful advice and aſſiſtance to Synods and Preſbyteries, upon application to them for that end: Likewiſe, to take care that the impreſſions of the *Holy Scriptures*, the *Confeſſion of Faith*, and *Catechiſms*, and ſuch books as are authoriſed by this Church, relating to the doctrine, worſhip, diſcipline and government thereof, be correct; and give directions about printing the ſame. And the Commiſſioners are appointed and empowered to keep a correſpondence with the Committee for Reformation of the Highlands and Iſlands, for ſuppreſſing Popery and ſuperſtition, and for promoting the knowledge of true religion, and carrying on a reformation in theſe parts, and give aſſiſtance and concurrence therein; and, if need be, to apply to the Government for a proper remedy and ſpeedy redreſs. And the ſaid Commiſſioners are hereby ſtrictly prohibited and diſcharged to meddle in any other matters than what are committed and referred to them as above mentioned: And, in all their actings, they are to proceed according to the acts and conſtitution of this Church, and to do nothing contrary thereto, or to the prejudice of the ſame; declaring, that, in and for all their actings, they

ſhall be accountable to, and cenſurable by the next General Aſſembly, as they ſhall ſee cauſe. And the General Aſſembly appoints the ſaid Commiſſioners particularly to obſerve the acts of the General Aſſemblies one thouſand ſeven hundred and twelve, and one thouſand ſeven hundred and nineteen, reſpecting the application of the public money; which two acts are printed among the acts of Aſſembly one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty-one. And this Commiſſion is to continue and endure until another Commiſſion be appointed; and members are required to attend the diets of the ſaid Commiſſion; and abſents therefrom are ordered to be noticed, according to the 17th act of the General Aſſembly held in the year one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſix. And for the better ſecuring of a quorum, and attendance of members on the Commiſſion, the General Aſſembly prohibits the Preſbytery of Edinburgh, or any other Preſbytery within twelve miles thereof, to meet on any of the days or weeks appointed for the meeting of this Commiſſion; and ſuch of the members of theſe Preſbyteries as are on the Commiſſion, are required, all of them to give attendance on the diets thereof; and the Preſbyteries at a greater diſtance, who have four or more members on the Commiſſion, are to take care, that at leaſt two of them attend each diet of the ſame: And the General Aſſembly appoint their Commiſſion, at their firſt meeting, to diſcuſs as many of the cauſes and queſtions relative to the ſettlement of vacant churches, which are or ſhall be referred to them by the Aſſembly, as they can overtake. And it is further provided, that when any Preſbytery or Synod of this Church ſhall decline to comply with the ſentence of the Commiſſion, or to give the ſame a full execution, in that caſe the Commiſſion is hereby prohibited to execute the ſame, by appointing any ſuch correſpondent meeting, as has been ſome time the practice, but ſhall allow the ſame to lie over to the enſuing Aſſembly, to which ſuch Preſbyteries or Synods ſhall be anſwerable for ſuch their conduct, and are hereby appointed to ſend up with their Commiſſioners their reaſons for the ſame. And that in paſſing their ſentences, and in ordering the execution of the ſame, they ſtrictly obſerve the 12th act of the Aſſembly one thouſand ſeven hundred and thirty-ſix.

V.

V.

Commiſſion to ſome Miniſters and Ruling Elders, for the Reformation of the Highlands and Iſlands of Scotland, and for managing his Majeſty's Royal Bounty for that end.

Edinburgh, May 28. *Seſſ.* 9.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY did, and hereby do, nominate and appoint the Reverend Dr ROBERT SMALL, one of the miniſters of Dundee, their Moderator, all the miniſters who are members of the Preſbytery of Edinburgh, Mr Robert Muter at Kirkcudbright, Mr John Johnſton at Croſsmichael, Dr William Boyd at Penningham, Mr John Coulter at Stranraer, Mr William MacQuhae at St Quivox, Mr John Shepherd at Muirkirk, Dr George Laurie at Loudon, Mr John Monteith, *junior*, at Neilſton, Mr Michael MacCulloch at Bothwell, Mr Joſeph Crichton at Carſtairs, Dr William Porteous, Glaſgow, Mr William Taylor, there, Mr John Stewart at Luſs, Mr Archibald MacLea at Rothſay, Mr Alexander Stewart at Jura, Mr Archibald MacColl at Tyrie, Mr Robert Williamſon at Lethendy, Mr George Baird at Dunkeld, Mr Harry Inglis at Forteviot, Mr John Duncan at Alva, Mr John Scott at Muthill, Mr Patrick Graham at Aberfoil, Mr James Reid at Beath, Mr David Swan at Scoonie, Mr Robert Bogie at Logie, Mr John Mair at Cameron, Mr James Nairn at Pittenweem, Dr George Hill at St Andrew's, Mr James Ogilvy at Eaſſy, Mr John Webſter at Inverarity, Mr David Spens at Kinnaird, Mr William Milligan at Kirkden, Mr Alexander Peter at Logiepert, Mr James Leſlie at Fordoun, Dr Alexander Gerard, Aberdeen, Mr Thomas Gordon at Aboyne, Mr James Reid at Auchendoir, Mr William Duff at Foveran, Mr Thomas Shepherd at Bourtie, Mr Robert Duff at King Edward, Mr Robert Grant at Cullen, Mr John Cooper at Glaſs, Mr James Grant at Inveraven, Mr Lewis Grant at Cromdale, Mr William

William Gordon at Urquhart, Mr John Hoyes at Kinloſs, Mr Hugh Calder at Croy, Mr Robert Roſe at Inverneſs, Mr Alexander Wood at Roſemarkie, Mr Alexander Munro at Edderton, Mr Daniel Roſe at Dingwall, Mr James Grant at Laggan, Mr George Munro at South Uiſt, Mr Alexander Stronach at Lochbroom, Mr George Rainnie at Criech, Mr Alexander Falconer at Edrachilles, Mr Robert Gun at Latheron, Mr James Watſon at South Ronaldſay, Mr John Anderſon at Stronſay, Mr William Mitchell at Tingwall, Mr Robert Wiſhart at Livingſtone, Mr John Gordon at Dolphington, Mr Charles Findlater at Newlands, Dr Alexander Carlyle at Invereſk, Mr George Goldie at Athelſtaneford, Mr Daniel MacQueen at Preſtonkirk, Mr Selby Ord at Longformacus, Mr George Tod at Eymouth, Mr James Richardſon at Morebattle, Mr James Rutherford at Hounam, Mr William Gullan at Legerwood, Mr Thomas Robertſon at Selkirk, Mr William Hardie-Moncrieff at Annan, Mr John Ruſſell at Canonby, Dr Patrick Niſbet at Hutton, Mr William Keyden at Penpont, Dr David Lamont at Kirkpatrick-Durham, *Miniſters;* John Gordon, Eſq; of Carleton, Horatius Cannan, Eſq; of Barley, George Cranſton, Eſq; of Dewar, Thomas Adair, Eſq; of Genoch, Mr Thomas Smith, writer, George Fergusſon, Eſq; advocate, the Hon. Mr Patrick Boyle, Henry Stewart, Eſq; of Allanton, Profeſſor Archibald Arthur, Glaſgow, The Lord Preſident, John Lamont of Lamont, Eſq; Archibald MacDonald of Sanda, Eſq; William Campbell of Fairfield, Eſq; Allan MacDougall of Hayfield, Eſq; Thomas Elder, Eſq; of Forneth, David Steuart, Eſq; banker, Profeſſor Hugh MacLeod, Glaſgow, the Hon. Henry Erſkine, Major John Melvill, Dr Andrew Duncan, Edinburgh, Mr Thomas Weir, writer, Mr William MacCormick, Edinburgh, Profeſſor Henry David Hill, Sir William Ramſay of Banff, Mr Thomas Miln, merchant, Canongate, Mr Thomas Duncan, writer, Adam Gillies, Eſq; advocate, John Burnet, Eſq, advocate, the Procurator, William MacDonald of Rineaton, Eſq; Profeſſor Thomas Gordon, Aberdeen, Mr William Gordon younger of Rothney, Mr James Moriſon, *jun.* merchant, Leith, Mr George Andrew, writer, Mr John Gordon, *jun.* of Cairnfield, Mr Baron Gordon, Iſaac Grant, Eſq; of Hilton, Dr Gregory Grant, Edinburgh, Mr Thomas Gordon, writer to the Signet, Mr William Scott, banker, Mr Alexander Grant, writer to the Signet, Robert MacKintoſh, Eſq; advocate, Convener John Lindſay, Edinburgh,

Edinburgh, Charles Roſs, Eſq; advocate, Robert Colt, Eſq; of Auldhame, Mr Kenneth Mackenzie, writer to the Signet, Mr Coll MacDonald, writer to the Signet, William Macleod-Bannatyne, Eſq; of Kames, Bailie Daniel Miller, Canongate, Mr William MacLean, merchant, Edinburgh, Mr James Horn, writer to the Signet, Mr Alexander Youngſon, writer, Malcolm Laing, Eſq; advocate, James Cunningham, Eſq; of Hyndhope, Commiſſioner Grieve, Profeſſor Dalzel, Edinburgh, Lord Henderland, William Ramſay, Eſq; of Barnton, Dean of Guild Smith, the Lord Provoſt of Edinburgh, Convener Reid, Baillie George Leſlie, Charles Hope, Eſq; advocate, the Solicitor General, John Brown of Coultermains, Eſq; James Montgomery, Eſq; advocate, Andrew Hamilton of Spittlehaugh, Eſq; the Lord Advocate, Matthew Sandilands, Eſq; of Couſton, the Right Honourable Henry Dundas, John MacFarlane, Eſq; advocate, the Earl of Lauderdale, William Elliot, Eſq; advocate, Sir William Maxwell, Baronet, Mr James Saunders, writer to the Signet, Mr John Jaffray, writer, Mr Archibald Douglas, writer, Mr John Peat, writer, Alexander Ferguſſon of Craigdarroch, Eſq; *Ruling Elders;* TO BE A COMMITTEE of this Aſſembly, for the reformation of the Highlands and Iſlands of Scotland, for promoting the knowledge of true religion, ſuppreſſing Popery and profaneneſs, and for managing the Royal Bounty for theſe ends, according to, and in terms of His Majeſty's grant to this Aſſembly. In proſecution of which purpoſes, the Committee are to appoint Preachers and Catechiſts, to go to ſuch places as they ſhall find, upon due information, to be the moſt proper, according to His Majeſty's deſign, expreſſed in His warrant; and, in ſo doing, that they have particular regard to ſuch pariſhes, in South Uiſt, Small Iſles, Glenco, Harris, the countries of Moidart, Glengary, and Lochaber, and the other pariſhes of the Synods of Glenelg and Argyle, which the Committee ſhall find, by reaſon of the vaſt extent, by the prevalency of Popery and ignorance, and other unhappy circumſtances, to be in the greateſt diſtreſs: And they ſhall take care, that the perſons they employ be certified, and found, upon due trial, to be properly qualified for theſe reſpective offices, of good abilities for the ſame, of a pious life and converſation; prudent, of undoubted loyalty to His Majeſty, and of competent ſkill in the principles of Divinity, and

particularly in Popiſh controverſies: Such Preachers and Catechiſts being hereby appointed to be ſubject to, and under the inſpection of the Preſbyteries of the bounds to which they are ſent, who are to take care that the orders of the Committee be duly obſerved by them. And the Preachers are alſo appointed to catechiſe, and both they and the Catechiſts to inſtruct the people from houſe to houſe, and to viſit the ſick; and, in all their labour among the people, to be careful to teach them the principles and duties of the true Chriſtian Proteſtant religion, and the obligations they are under to duty and loyalty to our Sovereign King George, and obedience to the laws: And the Committee are empowered to give them ſuch inſtructions, as to their work and behaviour, as they ſhall judge meet; which inſtructions the Preachers and Catechiſts are hereby ordered to obey. The General Aſſembly do further appoint the ſaid Committee, to have a particular regard in their proceedings, to the regulations agreed upon by the Committee of the Aſſembly for managing the Royal Bounty, on the 30th of September 1730, approven by frequent Aſſemblies: And to take care that Preſbyteries, and others concerned, obſerve the ſame, which they are hereby ordered to do: Particularly, the Aſſembly ordains the ſeveral Preſbyteries to inſert in their regiſters, the Committee's appointments of the deſignations, ſalaries, and ſtations of the ſeveral miſſionaries, and to have an exact regard thereto, in all the letters they ſhall write about the ſaid miſſionaries, and in giving of certificates to them; and to direct all their letters, concerning miſſionaries in their bounds, only to the Moderator of the Committee; which letters ſhall be ſigned, at the appointment of the Preſbytery, by the Moderator or Clerk thereof: And the Aſſembly does diſcharge any payment to be made of the ſalaries of the miſſionaries, except upon receipts from the miſſionaries themſelves, and upon certificates from the Preſbyteries, bearing, That they have ſerved for the time mentioned in the receipts; and that every Catechiſt who receives a ſalary from the Royal Bounty, on condition that the pariſhioners or gentlemen of the diſtrict ſhall pay a certain ſum in aid of ſuch ſalary, ſhall inſert, in the body of his receipt to the Caſhier, a declaration that he has received the particular ſum ſpecified; and that the atteſtation of the Preſbytery ſhall in like manner bear, that the Catechiſt

has

has received the ſtipulated ſum which the Committee make the condition of his appointment; it being underſtood by this reſolution, that the ſeveral ſtations, with regard to which ſuch conditions were originally made by the Committee, when no ſuch declaration of the Catechiſt, or atteſtation of the Preſbytery, as is now propoſed, is received by the Caſhier, ſhall be afterwards ſuppreſſed by the Committee, though the Catechiſt ſhall, notwithſtanding, receive the ſalary for the time he is certified to have performed his duty. That a journal of the itinerant's labours in the miniſtry, of the miſſion committed to him, be written on the back of the Preſbytery's certificate, and ſigned by him, as the ground on which the Preſbytery have granted him ſaid certificate. The General Aſſembly do alſo empower the ſaid Committee to apply, for the purpoſes above mentioned, what may remain of the laſt year's Royal Bounty not diſpoſed of, by reaſon of any of the miſſionaries not fulfilling the appointments laid upon them; and that they are to keep a regiſter of their proceedings, and likewiſe diſtinct books of accounts, how the foreſaid money is beſtowed, which ſhall be patent to any concerned, who pleaſe to inſpect the ſame. Of the perſons above named, as members of this Committee, five are declared to be a quorum, whereof three are to be miniſters. But it is hereby appointed, That at the quarterly meeting of the Committee, in which the ſcheme or eſtabliſhment of miſſionaries for the enſuing year is to be approved and determined, not leſs than fourteen ſhall be the quorum, whereof nine ſhall be miniſters; and the ſaid Committee are appointed to have their firſt general meeting at Edinburgh, the firſt lawful day after the adjournment of the firſt of the ſtated diets of the Commiſſion of the General Aſſembly; their ſecond meeting (which is for fixing the annual ſcheme), upon the ſecond Thurſday of July, with power to thoſe members who ſhall then be preſent, to adjourn; and their other two general meetings the firſt lawful days after the ſtated meetings of the Commiſſion of the General Aſſembly, in November and March, within the Aſſembly ayle, at ten of the clock in the forenoon, except that day ſhall fall to be Saturday, and then the meeting ſhall be upon Monday next thereafter, at the ſaid hour; with power to the ſaid Committee to adjourn themſelves to ſuch times and places as they ſhall find moſt needful and convenient:

And

And they are to keep a correſpondence with the Commiſſion of the General Aſſembly, and the Society for propagating Chriſtian Knowledge, and their Committee of Directors, and to take their advice and aſſiſtance; and alſo to correſpond with the Synods and Preſbyteries concerned. They are likewiſe inſtructed and empowered, as they ſhall ſee cauſe, to apply to the Government, or any Magiſtrate, for aſſiſtance and ſupport in carrying on the deſign of the Commiſſion now given to them. And the General Aſſembly do appoint Mr William Robertſon advocate, Procurator for the Church, and receiver of the foreſaid Royal Bounty, to pay out the ſame, as he ſhall be directed and ordered by the foreſaid Committee, and according to their rules. And the ſaid Committee are appointed to examine the accounts of the diſtribution of the Royal Bounty, and lay the ſame before the Lords Commiſſioners of His Majeſty's Treaſury, or the Barons of His Majeſty's Court of Exchequer, and to report their diligence to the General Aſſembly, to whom they are to be accountable. And it is agreed, That no perſon once employed and inſert in the ſcheme, ſhall be ſtruck out thereof for that year, but by the quorum of at leaſt fourteen, whereof nine to be miniſters; and in caſe any complaint ſhall be made againſt any of them on the ſcheme, it ſhall not be determined the firſt ordinary meeting that the ſame is offered, but it ſhall lie on the table till another meeting; and in the mean time the perſon complained of, and the Preſbytery of the bounds wherein he officiates, ſhall be acquainted of ſuch complaint, and thoſe concerned be required to ſend to the ſaid Committee a juſt account of the matter, againſt the next meeting. And it is farther appointed, That after the yearly ſcheme of miſſionaries on the Royal Bounty is ſettled in manner above directed, and notice thereof given by letters to the Preſbyteries concerned, ſuch Preſbyteries ſhall ſend up to the ſaid Committee their anſwer to theſe letters, at fartheſt with their Commiſſioners to the General Aſſembly, if the ſame be not done ſooner; and that the Committee, at their firſt meeting after the General Aſſembly, ſhall endeavour to complete the next year's ſcheme themſelves; and if they cannot complete it, they ſhall name a Sub-committee of their number for that purpoſe, who are to lay their draught thereof before a ſubſequent meeting, which is

appointed

appointed to meet as ſoon after the riſing of the Aſſembly as poſſible. And empowered the Committee, at their firſt meeting, to reject any petition for a new ſtation, in caſe they ſhall find ſufficient objections againſt it; and that the ſaid Committee, in making up the ſcheme of miſſionaries, &c. do not exceed the ſum in the grant.

VI.

Overture reſpecting the Ordination of Elders, re-tranſmitted.

Edinburgh, May 31. 1784.

WHEREAS great irregularities have crept into the Church, with reſpect to the ordination of Elders, the General Aſſembly overtures, That it be enacted, That no Miniſter ſhould ſet apart any perſon to the office of Elder in his congregation, who has not a fixed reſidence in the pariſh, or who is not an heritor in the pariſh; it being the true meaning and intent of this Overture, to prevent Elders being ordained in congregations who are in nowiſe connected with them: And it being underſtood, that any city or town, where there are more congregations than one, ſhall be held as one pariſh, ſo far as reſpects the purpoſe of this Overture.

VII.

Edinburgh, May 30. 1791, *Seſſ. ult.*

THE ASSEMBLY *having agreed to re-tranſmit the following Overture, with a Requiſition, That* PRESBYTERIES *may beſtow particular Attention upon the* THIRD SECTION ; *and tranſmit their Opinion to next Aſſembly, reſpecting* the number of Seſſions that Students of Divinity ſhould attend a Divinity-Hall ; *and the proper Diſtinction which ought to be made betwixt a* regular *and an* occaſional *Attendance ; the ſame is here re-tranſmitted accordingly.*

Overture reſpecting the Licenſing of Probationers, re-tranſmitted.

Edinburgh, May 26. 1787.

THE General Aſſembly having taken under their ſerious conſideration, the great danger to which the intereſts of religion and of this Church may be expoſed, by licenſing any to preach the goſpel, who are not duly qualified for that important truſt, do hereby enact, and ordain, that, in all time coming, the following regulations ſhall be ſtrictly obſerved :

I. It is hereby enacted, That no Student ſhall be entered upon the roll of any Profeſſor of Divinity, unleſs he ſhall produce to the ſaid Profeſſor, a certificate from the miniſter of the pariſh in which he has his uſual reſidence ; or in his abſence, or during a vacancy in ſaid pariſh, from ſome neighbouring miniſter, bearing, that his character is ſuitable to his views ; together with a diploma of Maſter of Arts, or Certificates from the ſeveral Profeſſors of Philoſophy, under whom he hath ſtudied ; from which it may be clearly aſcertained, that in ſome Univerſity or Univerſities, he hath gone through

a full courſe of Philoſophy, in ſome ſeſſions of College preceding that in which the certificates are produced.

II. To afford the better ſecurity for the regular and exemplary conduct of Students in Divinity, it is hereby enacted, That upon the concluſion of that ſeſſion in which they were firſt inrolled by the Profeſſor, they ſhall, ſome time within ſix kalendar months thereafter, intimate to the Preſbyteries, in whoſe bounds they have their reſpective places of reſidence, that they have commenced Students in Divinity; and that, if any Student has occaſion to remove from the bounds of one Preſbytery to thoſe of another, he ſhall, within ſix kalendar months after ſaid removal, intimate the ſame to the Preſbytery in whoſe bounds he is to have his new reſidence, and produce to them a certificate of his character from that Preſbytery with whom he was laſt connected; or at leaſt a certificate of his moral character from the miniſter of the pariſh in which he reſided. And it is farther enacted, That the ſeveral Preſbyteries of this Church, ſhall keep exact liſts of ſuch Students of Divinity, as reſide within their bounds, and watch over the conduct of the ſaid Students.

III. The General Aſſembly do likewiſe hereby ordain, That all Students who have been inrolled by Profeſſors of Divinity, in the manner preſcribed by this act, ſhall continue to proſecute the ſtudy of Divinity for the term of ſix years: Provided always, That if any Student hath given regular attendance in the Divinity Hall, during three ſeſſions, his courſe ſhall be conſidered as completed in four ſeſſions; and that if he hath given regular attendance in the Hall during two Seſſions, his courſe ſhall be conſidered as completed in five ſeſſions. And the Aſſembly do farther ordain, that in each of theſe caſes, Students ſhall be inrolled by the Profeſſors during the ſeveral ſeſſions of their reſpective courſes, and deliver in the Divinity Hall, in the manner herein afterwards provided, an *Exegeſis* in Latin on ſome controverted head in Divinity, a Homily in Engliſh, an Exerciſe and Addition, a Lecture on ſome large portion of Scripture, and a Popular Sermon, together with ſuch other Exerciſes, as the Profeſſors ſhall think proper to preſcribe. It is likewiſe hereby enacted, That, in each of theſe reſpective caſes, the courſe ſhall be computed from the commencement of that ſeſſion in which the Student

Student was originally inrolled; and that if a Student be propoſed to any Preſbytery for trials, during the currency of his fourth, fifth or ſixth ſeſſion, according to the ſpecial nature of his caſe, that ſeſſion ſhall be ſuſtained as one of his courſe.

IV. Profeſſors of Divinity are required to attend, as much as circumſtances may permit, to the conduct of ſuch Students as are under their care, and, as far as they find it practicable, to inſiſt, That every Student ſhall deliver his firſt diſcourſe ſome time during his ſecond ſeſſion, at the lateſt, and the remainder of his diſcourſes at ſuch periods as may enable him to deliver the whole of them before the end of January of the laſt ſeſſion of his courſe.

V. When a Student is to be propoſed to any Preſbytery, in order to be taken upon trials, the Preſbytery ſhall be alone, and the motion for that purpoſe ſhall lie upon the table till their next ordinary meeting. In the mean time, the Preſbytery ſhall appoint the member by whom the Student has been propoſed, to lay before the ſaid meeting all the Certificates in favour of the Student, that are uſually required on ſuch occaſions; to deſire him to attend the ſame, and to inform him, that previouſly to the meeting, he ought to wait on ſuch members of the Preſbytery, as have not formerly had an opportunity of converſing with him in private.

VI. When the time appointed for conſidering the motion is arrived, the Preſbytery ſhall ſtrictly obſerve the following regulations:

1*ſt*, The Preſbytery ſhall be alone, while they are employed in diſcuſſing the ſeveral preliminaries reſpecting Students who are propoſed for trials.

2*d*, They ſhall require ſatisfying evidence, that every Student who is propoſed for that purpoſe, has completed the twenty-firſt year of his age.

3*d*, No Student ſhall be admitted to trials, unleſs he produces to the Preſbytery a Certificate or Certificates, from the Profeſſor or Profeſſors of Divinity, under whoſe tuition he hath ſtudied, bearing, that he hath proſecuted his ſtudies, and delivered his diſcourſes in the manner preſcribed by this act; and that his conduct, as far as conſiſts with the knowledge of the ſaid Profeſſor,

or

or Profeſſors, has been in every reſpect ſuitable to his views in life.

4*th*, No Preſbytery ſhall receive any Student upon trials, unleſs they are ſatisfied that he is of good report; ſound in his principles; pious, ſober, grave, and prudent in his behaviour, of a peaceable diſpoſition, and well affected to the happy eſtabliſhment in this kingdom, both in Church and State. And, that the Preſbytery may proceed with all due caution, in a matter of ſuch peculiar importance, they ſhall not agree to the motion in behalf of the Student, unleſs he ſhall either have reſided ſix kalendar months within their bounds, immediately previous to the date of their deliberations, or ſhall produce a certificate of his being qualified, as is herein provided, from the Preſbytery in whoſe bounds he hath had his uſual reſidence for that period.

5*th*, The Preſbytery ſhall not agree to the motion in favour of the Student, unleſs they are ſatisfied that he has made a competent degree of proficiency in thoſe ſeveral branches of knowledge, which are neceſſary to enable him to be an uſeful Preacher of the Goſpel. And the General Aſſembly ordain, that the Preſbytery, in order to procure full information in this reſpect, ſhall examine the Student, ſtrictly and privately, on his knowledge of the Greek and Latin languages, and of Philoſophy and Theology.

6*th*, If, after theſe preliminary ſteps have been taken, the Preſbytery ſhall be of opinion, that the Student is duly qualified in theſe ſeveral particulars, they ſhall record this opinion in their minutes, and order their clerk to write letters to the ſeveral Preſbyteries within the bounds of the Provincial Synod, *two kalendar months at leaſt before the meeting of the ſame*, informing them of the Preſbytery's intention to take the Student upon public trials; and bearing, that the ſeveral certificates in his favour, which are required by this act, have been regularly laid before them. But it is hereby provided, That within the bounds of ſuch Synods as meet only once a-year, a Student may be entitled to have theſe circular letters written half a-year ſooner than would be otherwiſe competent.

See Abridgment, Seſſ. *ult.* 1788.

VII. The General Aſſembly do likewiſe appoint Preſbyteries to obſerve the ſeveral regulations which are preſcribed in the immediately preceding ſection of this

act, before they recommend a Student as qualified to be taken upon public trials by any other Preſbytery.

VIII. If a Student hath ſtudied, either in whole or in part, in Univerſities which are not within the bounds of this Church, he ſhall, when he is propoſed to any Preſbytery for trials, be required to produce ſatisfying teſtimonials from the Profeſſors of Divinity in ſaid Univerſities; and the time which theſe Profeſſors ſhall certify to have been employed by him in ſtudying Divinity under their tuition, ſhall be computed in the ſame manner as if he had proſecuted his ſtudies in any of the Univerſities within the bounds of this Church. But it is hereby provided, That no Student, in ſuch circumſtances, ſhall be admitted, even to thoſe private trials which are appointed to be taken before the writing of the circular letters, ſooner than ſix kalendar months after his arrival in Scotland.

IX. The General Aſſembly ordain, That if a Preſbytery propoſe to take a Student upon public trials, and have, with that view, written the circular letters, as is herein required, public intimation thereof ſhall be made at ſome diet of the next meeting of the Provincial Synod, which ſhall not be the laſt diet thereof. And it is likewiſe hereby ordained, That at ſome ſubſequent diet of the Synod, particular enquiry ſhall be made, whether any of the members of the Court has any objection to offer againſt the Student being entered upon public trials.

X. If the Synod ſhall allow the Student to be taken upon public trials, the Preſbytery ſhall proceed therein with all convenient ſpeed; and the Aſſembly appoint the following trials to be taken of the Student, and in the order herein mentioned: 1*ſt*, Catechetic trials on Divinity, Chronology and Church Hiſtory; 2*d*, A trial on the Hebrew and Greek languages; 3*d*, An *Exegeſis* in Latin, on ſome controverted head in Divinity, with the defence of the Theſis; 4*th*, A Homily in Engliſh; 5*th*, An Exerciſe and Addition; 6*th*. A Lecture on ſome large portion of Scripture; 7*th*, A popular Sermon; it being underſtood, that if the Preſbytery ſee cauſe, they may examine the Student upon the ſubject of theſe ſeveral diſcourſes.

XI.

XI. The Student having gone through the ſeveral trials, which are mentioned in the immediately preceding ſection of this act, the Preſbytery are ordained to proceed in the following order:

1*ſt*, They ſhall deliberately and ſeriouſly take a conjunct view of the whole trials; and if they ſhall be of opinion, that the Student is not properly qualified to perform the duties incumbent on a Preacher of the Goſpel, they ſhall by no means grant him a licence in his preſent circumſtances.

2*d*, If, upon this review of the trials, the Preſbytery are fully ſatisfied therewith, they ſhall record this opinion in their minutes.

3*d*, The Preſbytery ſhall then propoſe to the Student, the queſtions which are appointed to be put to all who paſs trials, by Act 10. Aſſemb. 1711, and require him to ſubſcribe the *Formula*, which is preſcribed by the ſaid act. And the General Aſſembly ſtrictly prohibit all Preſbyteries from licenſing any Student to preach the Goſpel, who ſhall not give explicit and ſatisfying anſwers to theſe queſtions, and ſubſcribe the ſaid *Formula*.

4*th*, The Preſbytery ſhall order the act againſt Simoniacal practices, to be read to the Student in their preſence.

Laſtly, The Preſbytery ſhall appoint their Moderator to licenſe the Student to preach the Goſpel, and order their Clerk to furniſh him with an extract of his licenſe, agreeable to the form thereof, which is preſcribed by the laws of this Church.

XII. For the better obſervance of this Act, the General Aſſembly ordain, 1*ſt*, That it ſhall be printed among their other printed acts; 2*d*, That it ſhall be printed by itſelf, in ſome convenient form; 3*d*, That a copy of this ſeparate edition ſhall be tranſmitted to each Profeſſor of Divinity in the Univerſities of Scotland; and that the ſaid Profeſſors ſhall read the ſame in their reſpective halls, once at leaſt during every ſeſſion, and at ſuch times as they have reaſon to expect the attendance of the greateſt number of Students for that ſeſſion; 4*th*, That a copy of the ſame edition ſhall likewiſe be tranſmitted to the Clerks of each Synod and Preſbytery within the bounds of this Church; and that the ſaid Clerks ſhall keep the ſame along with their minutes, and bring it up to each meeting of their reſpective Courts, for the uſe of the members; and, *laſtly*, That when any

Preſbytery

Preſbytery ſhall give a Probationer an extract of his licenſe, they ſhall ſubjoin to the form which is already requiſite on that occaſion, the following words: "And "the Preſbytery do hereby certify, That, in granting "this licence, the Act of Aſſembly reſpecting "the licenſing of Probationers, has been ſtrictly obſerved."

VIII.

Act appointing the Diet of the next General Aſſembly.

Edinburgh, May 30. 1791. *Seſſ. ult.*

THE next GENERAL ASSEMBLY of this National Church is appointed to be held within the New Church Ayle of Edinburgh, on Thurſday the 17th day of May, 1792.

Collected and extracted from the Records of the General Aſſembly, by

ANDREW DALZEL, *Cl. Eccl. Scot.*

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ABRIDGMENT

OF THE

ACTINGS and PROCEEDINGS of the GENERAL ASSEMBLY of the CHURCH of SCOTLAND, held at Edinburgh in the year 1791, which are not printed at full length.

Thurſday, May 19. 1791. *Seſſ.* 1*ſt.*

AFTER Sermon by the Reverend Dr JOHN WALKER, Miniſter of Collington, and *Regius* Profeſſor of Natural Hiſtory in the Univerſity of Edinburgh, Moderator of the laſt General Aſſembly, the Miniſters and Ruling Elders convened in the Aſſembly-houſe in the uſual manner: And, after prayer by the ſaid Dr John Walker, the Reverend Dr ROBERT SMALL, one of the Miniſters of Dundee, being unanimouſly choſen Moderator, he, at the Aſſembly's deſire, took the chair.

The KING'S Commiſſion to the Right Honourable DAVID Earl of LEVEN, to repreſent his Majeſty's Royal Perſon, read, and ordered to be recorded. — See Printed Acts, No. I.

The King's moſt gracious Letter to this Aſſembly, read, and ordered to be recorded. — and No. II.

The Commiſſioner's ſpeech at the opening of the Aſſembly, and the Moderator's ſpeech in return thereto.

A Committee named for anſwering the King's moſt gracious Letter.

A Committee named for reviſing the Commiſſions to the Members of this Aſſembly, cenſuring abſents from the diets thereof, naming Miniſters to preach before his Grace the King's Commiſſioner, and receiving Liſts of Probationers in the ſeveral Preſbyteries, in order to their being recorded.

A Committee for overtures named.

A Committee for bills, references, and appeals named.

Adjournment.

Friday, May 20. 1791. *Seſſ.* 2*d.*

Sederunt.

A diet ſpent in Prayer.

New Commiſſions produced.

Act VII. of the Aſſembly 1718, for the better diſpatch of the buſineſs of the Aſſembly, read, and the obſervation thereof enjoined.

Miniſters named to preach before his Grace the King's Commiſſioner.

The Committee for reviſing Commiſſions appointed to meet this evening at ſeven o'clock.

The

The Committees for overtures and bills appointed to meet this evening at half paſt ſeven o'clock, in the uſual places.

Adjournment.

Saturday, May 21. 1791. *Seſſ.* 3*d.*

Sederunt.

A new Commiſſion produced.

See Printed Acts, No. III.

The draught of an anſwer to the King's moſt gracious Letter to this Aſſembly, being brought in, and approved, his Grace the Commiſſioner, at the Aſſembly's requeſt, undertook to tranſmit the ſame to his Majeſty.

The Report of the Committee for overtures given in, and read.

The Aſſembly proceeded to conſider the objections to the following Commiſſions, *viz.*

It was objected to the Commiſſion from the Preſbytery of Deer, "That it is dated the 30*th* day of *April*, and that it is atteſted on the 27*th* day of *April*." After reaſoning, a motion was made and ſeconded, "To reject the Commiſſion, and expunge the Commiſſioners names from the roll." And another motion was made and ſeconded, "That whereas it appears *ex facie* from the Commiſſion, that the election was *not* made upon the 30th of April: And whereas evidence has been offered to this Houſe, that the election was made upon the 30th of March, the General Aſſembly ſhall delay judging in the Commiſſion, until the original record of the Preſbytery be laid before the Aſſembly." To which laſt motion the Aſſembly agreed, without a vote; it being underſtood, that the Commiſſioners from the Preſbytery of Deer, are not to be conſidered as Members of this Aſſembly, until it appears from the ſaid record laid before the Houſe, that the election was made in proper time.

It was objected to the Commiſſion from the City of Glaſgow, "That it is dated on the 8*th day of April*, and the reſolution to elect is on the 1*ſt of April*, which is not ten free days." The Aſſembly rejected the Commiſſion, and ordained the Commiſſioner's name to be expunged from the roll.

It was objected to the Commiſſion from the Burgh of Elgin, "That in the atteſtation, the word *likewiſe* is omitted; and further, That in the ſame atteſtation, the words, *of the Aſſembly*, are alſo omitted." The Aſſembly repelled the objection, and ſuſtained the Commiſſion.

It was objected to the Commiſſion from the Preſbytery of Lorn, "That the following words, *the word of God*, are omitted." The Aſſembly rejected the Commiſſion, and ordained the Commiſſioners names to be expunged from the roll.

The Report of the Committee appointed by the laſt General Aſſembly, on the ſubject of the Teſt Act, was given in and read: The Aſſembly agreed that the ſame ſhall lie on the table till Thurſday next, to be by them conſidered on that day.

A Committee named to conſider the ſubject of a General Augmentation of the Parochial Stipends, and Mr Solicitor-General appointed Convener thereof.

Thanks

Thanks given from the Chair to the former Committee on the Augmentation of Stipends, for their diligence in the buſineſs committed to them.

The roll of cauſes tranſmitted by the Committee for bills, called for, produced, and read.

Agreed to take up the cauſe reſpecting the Schoolmaſter of Langholm on Monday next; and the cauſe reſpecting the ſettlement of Tullich, *&c.* on Tueſday.

A Committee appointed to conſider the cauſe reſpecting the ſettlement of the pariſh of Cadder.

A Committee named to reviſe the actings and proceedings of the Commiſſion of the laſt General Aſſembly.

A Committee named to reviſe the actings and proceedings of the Committee appointed by laſt Aſſembly, for managing the Royal Bounty for reformation of the Highlands and Iſlands.

A Committee named to audit and reviſe the accounts of the Procurator and Agent for the Church, and other public accounts, conſider the ſtate of the Church's public money, and prepare overtures about the ſame.

The Committee for overtures appointed to meet this evening, and empowered to receive from the ſeveral Members any inſtructions given to them by the reſpective Synods or Preſbyteries, claſs the matters therein contained, and prepare overtures thereon to the Aſſembly; and to receive and conſider any accounts that ſhall be given them of the ſtate of the Church in the North Highlands, particularly concerning the growth of Popery and Superſtition, and prepare overtures for preventing and ſuppreſſing thereof.

The Committee for bills appointed to meet this evening.

Adjournment.

Monday, May 23. 1791. *Seſſ.* 4*th.*

Sederunt.

New Commiſſions produced.

Report of the Committee for overtures, called for, given in, and read.

Agreed to conſider on Saturday next the overtures from the Synod of Lothian and Tweeddale, and from the Synod of Merſe and Teviotdale, on the ſubject of the Slave Trade.

Synod-books called for.

Committees appointed to reviſe the Synod-books of Angus and Mearns, and of Merſe and Teviotdale.

None of the other Synod-books being brought up, appoint, that they be brought up to next Aſſembly.

Agreed to conſider on Saturday next, the report of the Committee appointed by laſt Aſſembly, to conſider the propoſed amendments on the overture reſpecting the Licenſing of Probationers.

A petition for the Preſbytery of Langholm, referring the cauſe againſt Mr Telfer, Schoolmaſter of Langholm, to this Aſſembly, being read, a motion was made and ſeconded, "That this cauſe be remitted to the Preſbytery of Lang-
"holm, in terms of the deciſion of the Commiſſion of laſt
"Aſſembly, with inſtructions to them to proceed in it with-

" out farther delay, to the beſt of their judgment, accord-
" ing to the rules of the Church." And another motion was made and ſeconded, " That parties at the bar be heard be-
" fore any judgment be given." The Aſſembly agreed to this ſtate of the vote, *Remit* or *Proceed;* it being underſtood, that if it carry *Proceed*, parties ſhall be immediately heard. And the roll being called, and votes marked, it carried *Remit*. Therefore the Aſſembly adopted the firſt motion as their judgment.

Agree to take up the cauſe anent the ſettlement of Dunfermline, and the cauſe concerning the ſettlement of Lochalſh on Wedneſday; and the cauſe of Dr Macgill on Friday.

The Committees for overtures and bills appointed to meet.

Adjournment.

Tueſday, May 24. 1791. *Seſſ.* 5.

Sederunt.

New Commiſſions produced.

Report of the Committee for overtures called for, given in, and read.

It was objected to the Commiſſion from the Preſbytery of Inverary, " That it wants the atteſtation." The Aſſembly reject the Commiſſion, and ordain the Commiſſioners names to be expunged from the roll.

A Committee appointed to conſider the papers reſpecting the melioration of glebes and ſtipends.

The liſt of grievances from the Preſbytery of North Iſles referred to the Procurator.

The report of the Committee for bills called for, given in, and read.

Agreed to conſider the cauſe reſpecting the ſchoolmaſter of Bothwell on Saturday.

Agreed to take up the cauſe of Govan to-morrow, after the cauſe of Dunfermline.

The Committees for reviſing the Commiſſion record, and Royal Bounty record, appointed to meet.

An appeal at the inſtance of James Farquharſon, Eſq; of Invercauld, and others, heritors or inhabitants of the united pariſhes of Tullich, Glenmuick and Glengairden, from a ſentence of the Synod of Aberdeen, appointing the Preſbytery of Kincardine-o'Neal, to proceed to the admiſſion of Mr George Brown to be miniſter of theſe pariſhes, heard. A motion was then made and ſeconded, " That the Aſſembly ſhall af-
" firm the ſentence of the Synod of Aberdeen, and ordain
" the Preſbytery of Kincardine-o'Neal to proceed to the
" ſettlement of Mr George Brown in the united pariſhes of
" Tullich, Glenmuick and Glengairden, with all convenient
" ſpeed, according to the rules of the Church." And, after reaſoning, another motion was made and ſeconded, " That
" in reſpect there has not been proper and ſatisfactory evi-
" dence produced to the Aſſembly, that the knowledge of
" the Gaelic language is not neceſſary in the paſtor of the
" united pariſhes of Tullich, Glenmuick and Glengairden,
" and as it does not appear that the Preſbytery has taken the

" neceſſary

" neceſſary ſteps for obtaining that evidence, the General " Aſſembly remit this cauſe to the Preſbytery of Kincardine- " o'Neal, with an inſtruction to take the moſt proper and " expedient ſteps in order to obtain a juſt knowledge of the " real ſtate of the pariſh, and report to next Aſſembly." The Aſſembly agreed to this ſtate of the vote, *Affirm* or *Remit*, and the roll being called, and votes marked, it carried *Affirm*. Therefore the Aſſembly affirmed the ſentence of the Synod of Aberdeen.

A motion was made and unanimouſly agreed to, That as there are a few perſons in the united pariſhes of Tullich, Glenmuick and Glengairden, who have not the Engliſh language, the General Aſſembly inſtruct the Committee on the Royal Bounty, to appoint an itinerant having the Gaelic language to the ſaid united pariſhes with all convenient ſpeed, inſtructing them at the ſame time to provide Mr Grant the preſent miſſionary, in a ſituation equally comfortable.

The Committee for bills appointed to meet.

Adjournment.

Wedneſday, May 25. 1791. *Seſſ.* 6.

Sederunt.

Report of the Committee for bills called for, given in, and read.

The Committee on public accounts and new applications. And the Committee on the caſe of Cadder, appointed to meet.

An appeal at the inſtance of John Eckford, merchant in Dunfermline, for himſelf, and in name of the other heritors, elders, and others of the burgh and pariſh of Dunfermline, who voted againſt the moderation and call of the Reverend Mr Allan Maclean to be firſt miniſter of that pariſh, from a ſentence of the Synod of Fife, affirming a ſentence of the Preſbytery of Dunfermline, ſuſtaining the call to the ſaid Mr Allan Maclean to be miniſter of the firſt charge of the church and pariſh of Dunfermline, and appointing the ſaid Preſbytery to proceed to his ſettlement with all convenient diſpatch according to the rules of the Church, heard. The Aſſembly unanimouſly conſidering this appeal as unfounded, frivolous and vexatious, diſmiſſed the ſame, and affirmed the ſentence of the Synod of Fife and Preſbytery of Dunfermline; and at the requeſt of the Preſbytery, appointed them to proceed to the ſettlement of Mr Maclean, on or before the 15th day of July next, according to the rules of the Church.

An appeal at the inſtance of James Ritchie, Eſq; of Buſby, and others, heritors of the pariſh of Govan, from a ſentence of the Synod of Glaſgow and Ayr, affirming a ſentence of the Preſbytery of Glaſgow, ſuſtaining the call of the pariſh of Govan, in favour of Mr John Pollock, and appointing the Preſbytery to proceed to his ordination as miniſter of that church and pariſh, with all convenient ſpeed, according to the rules of the Church, heard. The Aſſembly found this appeal frivolous and vexatious, and diſmiſſed the ſame: Affirmed the ſentence of the Synod of Glaſgow and Ayr, and ordained the Preſbytery of Glaſgow to proceed to the ſettlement

ment of Mr Pollock with all convenient ſpeed, according to the rules of the Church.

The cauſe of Lochalſh delayed till Friday.

A petition and reference from the Preſbytery of Fordyce was read. The Aſſembly found, That whereas Mr Hugh Hay has given notice to the Preſbytery of Fordyce of his having accepted of a preſentation to be one of the miniſters of the city of Aberdeen, he has thereby renounced the preſentation to the pariſh of Rathven, which he had formerly accepted; the Aſſembly therefore inſtructed the Preſbytery of Fordyce to give intimation thereof to the patron of the pariſh of Rathven, that the proper ſteps may be taken without delay, for ſupplying the vacancy of that charge.

Adjournment.

Thurſday, May 26. 1791. *Seſſ.* 7

Sederunt.

Upon a motion, the Committee of bills appointed to meet tomorrow.

The public accounts produced, and ordered to lie on the table.

Agreed to conſider the two petitions reſpecting the ſchoolmaſter of Bothwell together.

The report of the Committee anent the feuing of glebes given in and read, as follows: "The Committee report to the Aſſembly as their opinion, That the overture ſhould be remitted to the Committee appointed to conſider the augmentation of parochial ſtipends; and that the obſervation made by the Preſbytery of Dundee relative to the feuing of glebes, ſhould be mentioned in the abſtract of the printed acts of this Aſſembly, that the Members of the Church may have an opportunity of ſuggeſting ſuch obſervations as may occur to them on that ſubject to the Clerks of Aſſembly, to be by them laid before the ſaid Committee. The Committee alſo report it as their opinion, That as the Court of Seſſion have pronounced a judgment in the caſe of the glebe of Dunkeld relative to this ſubject, unfavourable to the miniſter, that the Procurator and Agent of the Church ſhould be directed by the Aſſembly to give in a reclaiming petition in that cauſe, and to carry it on at the expence of the funds of the Church, that a final judgment may be obtained thereon." The Aſſembly having conſidered the above report, they unanimouſly approved thereof, and ordered accordingly; and the opinion of the Preſbytery of Dundee above referred to, is as follows, *viz.* "As in many caſes, particularly near thriving towns and villages, the feuing of glebes would be of the greateſt advantage to incumbents, and ſometimes produce an annual income nearly equal to their ſtipend; and as it is apprehended that the laws on this ſubject are at preſent defective, the Preſbytery are of opinion, that this matter deſerves the attention of the Aſſembly, and ſhould be included in their propoſed application to Parliament."

Agreed to conſider on Saturday, the report of the Committee on the cauſe of Cadder.

Upon

Upon a motion made, a Committee was named to deviſe a method by which a monument may be erected, or ſome public mark of reſpect be paid to the memory of the late Dr Alexander Webſter, original projector and founder of the ſcheme by which a fund of proviſion was made for the widows of the miniſters of the Eſtabliſhed Church of Scotland; and Mr Gordon of Carleton appointed convener of the Committee.

The report of the Committee appointed by laſt Aſſembly on the ſubject of the Teſt Act, which the Aſſembly had formerly agreed ſhould lie on the table till this day, was again called for, and read; and the Aſſembly unanimouſly ordered the ſame to be recorded.

An appeal at the inſtance of George Gray, and others, heritors and heads of families of the pariſh of Ancrum, from a ſentence of the Synod of Merſe and Teviotdale, affirming a ſentence of the Preſbytery of Jedburgh, ſuſtaining a preſentation and call to Mr James Oliver, preacher, to be miniſter of that pariſh, heard. The Aſſembly diſmiſſed the appeal as groundleſs, and ordained the Preſbytery of Jedburgh to proceed to the ſettlement of Mr Oliver with all convenient ſpeed, according to the rules of the Church. From which deciſion three members diſſented.

Adjournment.

Friday, May 27. 1791. *Seſſ.* 8.

Sederunt.

Two members adhered to the diſſent of yeſterday in the deciſion reſpecting the ſettlement of Ancrum.

The Committees for reviſing the Commiſſion record, and Royal Bounty record, appointed to report to-morrow.

A petition, with extract minutes from the Synod of Moray, reſpecting the ſuppreſſion of the pariſh of Dundurcas, and the annexation of it to the pariſhes of Rothes and Boharn, read. The Aſſembly remitted the ſame to the Procurator and Agent, to do therein as they may ſee cauſe.

A petition for the Preſbytery of Ayr, referring the cauſe againſt Dr William Macgill, one of the miniſters of Ayr, heard; and, after reaſoning, the Aſſembly heard Mr Thomas Muir, Advocate, counſel for the complainers, upon the right of the ſaid complainers to be heard; and, after reaſoning at great length, a motion was made and ſeconded, That the Aſſembly ſhall diſmiſs this complaint as a *res hactenus judicata;* and another motion was made and ſeconded, That the Aſſembly ſhall not agree to this motion. It was agreed to put this ſtate of the vote, *diſmiſs* the complaint or *not;* and the roll being called and votes marked, it carried by a great majority, *diſmiſs*. The Aſſembly therefore diſmiſſed the ſaid complaint accordingly. Againſt which two members diſſented.

A Committee appointed to reviſe the Synod-book of Glaſgow and Ayr.

Adjournment.

Saturday, May 28. 1791. Seſſ. 9.

Sederunt.

The record of the Preſbytery of Deer was produced and read, from which it appeared, that the Commiſſioners from that Preſbytery were elected on the 30th of March 1791. The Aſſembly therefore agreed, in terms of their former reſolution, that the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall now take their ſeats as members of this Aſſembly.

A reference from the Preſbytery of Aberdeen, anent Mr Hugh Hay, read: The Procurator for the Church reported, That he had attended, according to the order of laſt Aſſembly, to the civil proceſs of reduction at the inſtance of Lieutenant-Colonel Alexander Hay of Rannes, againſt Mr Hugh Hay, preacher of the goſpel, and that the Court of Seſſion have given the following deciſion in ſaid proceſs, "Find it proven, "That a ſimoniacal tranſaction was entered into between the "late Mr Hay of Rannes and James Robertſon, but that the "defender Mr Hugh Hay had no knowledge of, nor acceſ-"ſion thereto." The Aſſembly approved of the conduct of the Preſbytery of Aberdeen, in ſiſting procedure in the ſettlement of Mr Hugh Hay, as one of the miniſters of Aberdeen, until the civil queſtion above mentioned was determined, but declared, that the Preſbytery is now at full liberty to proceed in the ſaid ſettlement with all convenient ſpeed, according to the rules of the Church.

Act approving of the account of Mr William Robertſon, Advocate, Procurator for the Church, and exonering and diſcharging him and his cautioners of the ſum of L. 546: 7: 7 $\frac{8}{12}$ Sterling diſburſed by him, and appointing that he take credit in his next account for the ſum of L. 46: 7: 7 $\frac{8}{12}$ Sterling, being the balance due to him.

Act approving of the account of Mr George Cairncroſs, Agent for the Church, and exonering and diſcharging him of the ſum of L. 116: 13: 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ Sterling diſburſed by him, and appointing that he take credit in his next account for the ſum of L. 4: 3: 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ Sterling, being the balance due to him.

Act approving of the account of Dr William Gloag, ſub-clerk of Aſſembly, and exonering and diſcharging him of the ſum of L. 32: 14: 5 Sterling diſburſed by him; and appointing that he take credit in his next account for the ſum of L. 13, 19s. 5d. Sterling, being the balance due to him.

Act approving of the account of Mr James Dickſon, Printer for the Church, and ordering payment of the ſum of L. 16, 17s. Sterling, being the amount thereof.

Act approving of the account of Mr Elphinſton Balfour, Stationer to the Church, and ordering payment of the ſum of L. 10: 7: 4 Sterling, being the amount thereof.

An account due to Mr William Murray for writings, ordered to be paid.

The report of the Committee on the public funds of the Church, and new applications thereanent, given in and read, and unanimouſly approved of.

The Procurator authoriſed to pay to Mr Alexander Nairne, as truſtee for William Brodie's creditors, the ſum of L. 7: 2: 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ Sterling,

Sterling, being the amount of an account due to him for altering the Aſſembly-houſe; and,

To pay to Mr Andrew Brown, miniſter of Falkland, the ſum of L. 15 Sterling, being the amount of the expences awarded againſt him by the Court of Seſſion, in the proceſs with his heritors. Both theſe, as ſoon as the debts now on the funds of the Church are paid.

A liſt of grievances from the Preſbytery of North Iſles; and a liſt of grievances from the Preſbytery of Kirkwall were read, and remitted to the Procurator for his advice and direction. In the mean time, the Aſſembly expreſſed their ſympathy with the brethren of thoſe Preſbyteries, and ordered the ſaid liſts to lie on the table, until the ſtate of the funds of the Church ſhall admit of affording them aid in proſecuting their juſt claims before a civil Court. At the ſame time, the General Aſſembly earneſtly wiſh, that ſuch meaſures may be ſpeedily adopted by the heritors within the bounds of theſe Preſbyteries, as may render this aid unneceſſary.

The report of the viſitors of the Commiſſion record called for; the Commiſſion's conduct approved of; thanks given to the Moderator of the Commiſſion, and their book ordered to be atteſted.

The report of the Committee for naming the Members of the COMMISSION of this ASSEMBLY, and preparing inſtructions to them, given in, and approved of. The Aſſembly added thereto Dr Thomas Hardy, one of the miniſters of Edinburgh, in place of the Moderator, and alſo all thoſe whoſe commiſſions had been rejected on account of informality. See printed Acts, No. IV.

The report of the viſitors of the Royal Bounty regiſter given in and read, the conduct of the managers approved of, and their book ordered to be atteſted.

A Committee named for managing the Royal Bounty this year, with a commiſſion and inſtructions to them. See printed Acts, No. V.

The Committees for reviſing the Synod books, appointed to give in their reports on Monday.

The Committee on the ſcheme for erecting new pariſhes in the Highlands and Iſlands, renewed, with the former powers.

The Committee on the Enzie fund renewed, with the former powers; and Mr John Kemp, Mr John Gordon younger of Cairnfield, and Mr James Moriſon *jun.* merchant in Leith, were added thereto.

The names of the Committee on the augmentation of ſtipends being read, ſome members were added thereto.

The report of the Truſtees of the Fund eſtabliſhed by act of Parliament for a proviſion to Miniſters Widows, &c. containing an account of their proceedings ſince laſt General Aſſembly, and a ſtate of the fund under their management given in, and ordered to lie on the table till Monday: And, upon a motion, the thanks of the Houſe were given from the Chair to Sir Henry Moncrieff-Wellwood, for his fidelity, attention, and prudence in the management of the Fund.

The report of the Committee for claſſing returns to overtures given in and read.

Saturday, May 28. 1791. Seſſ. 9.

Sederunt.

The record of the Preſbytery of Deer was produced and read, from which it appeared, that the Commiſſioners from that Preſbytery were elected on the 30th of March 1791. The Aſſembly therefore agreed, in terms of their former reſolution, that the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall now take their ſeats as members of this Aſſembly.

A reference from the Preſbytery of Aberdeen, anent Mr Hugh Hay, read: The Procurator for the Church reported, That he had attended, according to the order of laſt Aſſembly, to the civil proceſs of reduction at the inſtance of Lieutenant-Colonel Alexander Hay of Rannes, againſt Mr Hugh Hay, preacher of the goſpel, and that the Court of Seſſion have given the following deciſion in ſaid proceſs, "Find it proven, "That a ſimoniacal tranſaction was entered into between the "late Mr Hay of Rannes and James Robertſon, but that the "defender Mr Hugh Hay had no knowledge of, nor acceſ-"ſion thereto." The Aſſembly approved of the conduct of the Preſbytery of Aberdeen, in ſiſting procedure in the ſettlement of Mr Hugh Hay, as one of the miniſters of Aberdeen, until the civil queſtion above mentioned was determined, but declared, that the Preſbytery is now at full liberty to proceed in the ſaid ſettlement with all convenient ſpeed, according to the rules of the Church.

Act approving of the account of Mr William Robertſon, Advocate, Procurator for the Church, and exonering and diſcharging him and his cautioners of the ſum of L. 546: 7: 7 $\frac{8}{12}$ Sterling diſburſed by him, and appointing that he take credit in his next account for the ſum of L. 46: 7: 7 $\frac{8}{12}$ Sterling, being the balance due to him.

Act approving of the account of Mr George Cairncroſs, Agent for the Church, and exonering and diſcharging him of the ſum of L. 116: 13: 0½ Sterling diſburſed by him, and appointing that he take credit in his next account for the ſum of L. 4: 3: 0½ Sterling, being the balance due to him.

Act approving of the account of Dr William Gloag, ſub-clerk of Aſſembly, and exonering and diſcharging him of the ſum of L. 32: 14: 5 Sterling diſburſed by him; and appointing that he take credit in his next account for the ſum of L. 13, 19s. 5d. Sterling, being the balance due to him.

Act approving of the account of Mr James Dickſon, Printer for the Church, and ordering payment of the ſum of L. 16, 17s. Sterling, being the amount thereof.

Act approving of the account of Mr Elphinſton Balfour, Stationer to the Church, and ordering payment of the ſum of L. 10: 7: 4 Sterling, being the amount thereof.

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The report of the Committee on the public funds of the Church, and new applications thereanent, given in and read, and unanimouſly approved of.

The Procurator authoriſed to pay to Mr Alexander Nairne, as truſtee for William Brodie's creditors, the ſum of L. 7: 2: 8½ Sterling,

Sterling, being the amount of an account due to him for altering the Aſſembly-houſe; and,

To pay to Mr Andrew Brown, miniſter of Falkland, the ſum of L. 15 Sterling, being the amount of the expences awarded againſt him by the Court of Seſſion, in the proceſs with his heritors. Both theſe, as ſoon as the debts now on the funds of the Church are paid.

A liſt of grievances from the Preſbytery of North Iſles; and a liſt of grievances from the Preſbytery of Kirkwall were read, and remitted to the Procurator for his advice and direction. In the mean time, the Aſſembly expreſſed their ſympathy with the brethren of thoſe Preſbyteries, and ordered the ſaid liſts to lie on the table, until the ſtate of the funds of the Church ſhall admit of affording them aid in proſecuting their juſt claims before a civil Court. At the ſame time, the General Aſſembly earneſtly wiſh, that ſuch meaſures may be ſpeedily adopted by the heritors within the bounds of theſe Preſbyteries, as may render this aid unneceſſary.

The report of the viſitors of the Commiſſion record called for; the Commiſſion's conduct approved of; thanks given to the Moderator of the Commiſſion, and their book ordered to be atteſted.

The report of the Committee for naming the Members of the COMMISSION of this ASSEMBLY, and preparing inſtructions to them, given in, and approved of. The Aſſembly added thereto Dr Thomas Hardy, one of the miniſters of Edinburgh, in place of the Moderator, and alſo all thoſe whoſe commiſſions had been rejected on account of informality. See printed Acts, No. IV.

The report of the viſitors of the Royal Bounty regiſter given in and read, the conduct of the managers approved of, and their book ordered to be atteſted.

A Committee named for managing the Royal Bounty this year, with a commiſſion and inſtructions to them. See printed Acts, No. V.

The Committees for reviſing the Synod books, appointed to give in their reports on Monday.

The Committee on the ſcheme for erecting new pariſhes in the Highlands and Iſlands, renewed, with the former powers.

The Committee on the Enzie fund renewed, with the former powers; and Mr John Kemp, Mr John Gordon younger of Cairnfield, and Mr James Moriſon *jun.* merchant in Leith, were added thereto.

The names of the Committee on the augmentation of ſtipends being read, ſome members were added thereto.

The report of the Truſtees of the Fund eſtabliſhed by act of Parliament for a proviſion to Miniſters Widows, &c. containing an account of their proceedings ſince laſt General Aſſembly, and a ſtate of the fund under their management given in, and ordered to lie on the table till Monday: And, upon a motion, the thanks of the Houſe were given from the Chair to Sir Henry Moncrieff-Wellwood, for his fidelity, attention, and prudence in the management of the Fund.

The report of the Committee for claſſing returns to overtures given in and read.

See printed Acts, No. VI. The overture reſpecting the ordination of Elders, read, and ordered to be re-tranſmitted.

Dr Walker, Moderator of laſt General Aſſembly, informed the Houſe, that in conſequence of an application made to the Lord Advocate, the Lords of the Treaſury had given directions not to levy from the Clergy of Scotland, the New Houſe and Window Duty of ten *per cent.* on the former Taxes, impoſed by an act of laſt ſeſſion of Parliament, but to place the ſame *inſuper*. The thanks of the Houſe were unanimouſly given to the Lord Advocate for his great attention to the intereſt of the Clergy on this occaſion; and alſo to Dr Walker for his diligence in this affair.

The Aſſembly proceeded to conſider the overtures from the Synods of Lothian and Tweeddale, and Merſe and Teviotdale, on the Slave Trade, and having reaſoned upon theſe overtures, the Aſſembly, in terms of their reſolution on the ſubject of ſimilar overtures in the year 1788, approved of the ſpirit thereof, and think themſelves called upon as men, as Chriſtians, and as members of this National Church, to declare their abhorrence of a traffic ſo contrary to the rights of mankind, and the feelings of humanity; but they judge it unneceſſary at preſent to proceed farther in this buſineſs, truſting that the wiſdom and mercy of the Legiſlature will take ſuch ſteps as they ſhall think proper for the relief of that unhappy race of men, mentioned in the ſaid overtures.

Mr John Millar, Advocate, as counſel for James Dunlop, Eſq; and other heritors of the pariſh of Cadder, appeared at the bar, and withdrew the petition given in for them, anent the ſettlement of Cadder. The Aſſembly then proceeded to conſider the report of the Committee on that cauſe, and after reaſoning, they remitted the ſaid report to the conſideration of the Preſbytery of Glaſgow.

The cauſe of Bothwell delayed till Monday.

Adjournment.

Monday, May 30. 1791. *Seſſ. ult.*

Sederunt.

The report of the Truſtees of the Fund eſtabliſhed by act of Parliament for a proviſion to Miniſters Widows, &c. again called for, and ordered to be recorded in the ſeparate regiſter kept for that purpoſe.

The Synod-book of Angus and Mearns ordered to be atteſted.

The Synod-book of Merſe and Teviotdale ordered to be atteſted.

The Synod-book of Glaſgow and Ayr ordered to be atteſted.

Liſt of Probationers produced, their names read out, and ordered to be recorded.

The report of the Committee appointed by laſt Aſſembly to conſider the overture concerning the licenſing of Probationers, was read; and after reaſoning thereon, the Aſſembly recommitted the ſame to the former Committee, and added Mr Randal thereto, and recommended it to them to take into conſideration a proper form of an extract of a licence to Probationers. And in the mean time, the Aſſembly agreed to re-

tranſmit

tranſmit the former overture without any amendment, with a requiſition, that Preſbyteries may beſtow particular attention upon the 3d ſection, and tranſmit their opinion to next Aſſembly, reſpecting the number of ſeſſions that Students of Divinity ſhould attend a Divinity-hall, and the proper diſtinction which ought to be made, betwixt a regular and an occaſional attendance. See printed Acts, No. VII.

The Committee on the Horſe-tax renewed, and the Aſſembly added thereto Dr David Johnſton, and appointed him Convener.

The Aſſembly proceeded to the cauſe reſpecting the Schoolmaſter of Bothwell, and heard parties firſt on the point of the juriſdiction of the Court. After reaſoning, the Aſſembly without a vote ſuſtained the appeal to the Synod as competent. And having been informed by the Procurator, that the queſtion with regard to the power of the ſuperior Eccleſiaſtical Courts to review the ſentence of a Preſbytery relative to the qualification of a ſchoolmaſter is now depending before the Court of Seſſion, authoriſe the Procurator and Agent to attend to the rights of the Church in that cauſe, and to report to next Aſſembly. The Aſſembly referred to their Commiſſion the merits of this cauſe, and all other cauſes brought before this Aſſembly, and not diſcuſſed by them.

Proteſtations admitted.

The Committee for deviſing a method for erecting a monument to the memory of Dr Alexander Webſter, appointed to meet this evening.

A Committee named to reviſe the minutes of the Aſſembly's proceedings, at this and all other diets thereof, and to pitch upon ſuch of the Acts of the Aſſembly as are to be ſtanding rules, in order to their being printed.

The Moderator's ſpeech to the Aſſembly, and to his Grace the Commiſſioner.

The Lord High Commiſſioner's ſpeech to the Aſſembly.

Act appointing next meeting of the Aſſembly. See printed Acts, No. VIII.

The Aſſembly concluded with Prayer, Singing of Pſalms, and pronouncing the Bleſſing.